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Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------120819 131811Z /42
O 121645Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1940
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KINSHASA 9905

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDER, ELTN, AO, CG

REF: (A) STATE 200867 (NOTAL) (B) KINSHASA 9219
(C) KINSHASA 9264 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: EMBOFF MET WITH GOZ PRESIDENTIAL LEGAL ADVISOR MUKE KANDONG ON SEPTEMBER 12 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE ZAIRIAN-ANGOLAN RAPPROCHEMENT. THEY REVIEWED IN

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PARTICULAR THE PROPOSED OAU BORDER VERIFICATION COMMISSION, THE BENGUELA RAILWAY PROBLEM, AND THE REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES. WHILE MUKE HAD LITTLE NEW INFORMATION REGARDING THE BENGUELA RAILWAY TO ADD TO THAT GIVEN CHARGE ON AUGUST 23, HE PROVIDED SOME ADDITIONAL DETAILS CONCERNING THE VERIFICATION COMMISSION AND REFUGEE REPATRIATION. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE GOZ HAD NOT YET OFFICIALLY APPROACHED THE OAU, THE PROPOSED MEMBERS OF THE

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VERIFICATION COMMISSION, OR UNHCR REGARDING THEIR PROSPECTIVE ROLES IN THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF MET WITH PRESIDENTIAL LEGAL ADVISOR MUKE ON SEPTEMBER 12 TO PURSUE QUESTIONS RASIED REF A WHICH MUKE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO ANSWER OR COULD ONLY PARTIALLY ANSWER DURING HIS AUGUST 23 MEETING WITH CHARGE (REFS B AND C). MUKE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

A. OAU INVOLVEMENT: MUKE REPORTED THAT GOZ STILL HAD TO CONFIRM ITS SHARED INTEREST WITH ANGOLA IN HAVING THE OAU ACTIVE IN THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS. THREE WEEKS AGO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAD BEEN CHARGED WITH PREPARING SUCH A LETTER WHICH WOULD ALSO SPELL OUT THE DETAILS OF THE OAU'S ROLE. HOWEVER, MUKE HAD NO IDEA IF THIS LETTER HAD BEEN COMPLETED AS YET.

B. OAU BORDER VERIFICATION COMMISSION: ONCE THE OAU WAS OFFICIALLY "SEIZED" OF THE QUESTION, IT IN TURN WOULD OFFICIALLY NOTIFY THE FOUR PARTICIPANTS IN THE VERIFICATION COMMISSION OF THEIR NOMINATION--I.E. NIGERIA AND CAMEROON (NAMED BY ANGOLA) AND RWANDA AND THE SUDAN (NAMED BY ZAIRE). THE COMMISSION ITSELF WOULD DETERMINE OPERATION PROCEDURES, DECIDE WHETHER THE CONTROL TEAMS WOULD REGULARLY PATROL OR SIMPLY INVESTIGATE SPECIFIC CHARGES OF FRONTIER VIOLATIONS, DEFINE THE AREA OF OPERATIONS, FIX THE COMPOSITION AND EMPHASIS (I.E. CIVILIAN OR MILITARY) OF THE CONTROL TEAMS, SPECIFY NEEDED LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AND FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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WHOM IT SHOULD BE OBTAINED, AND CHOOSE WHAT ACTION TO TAKE IF A FRONTIER VIOLATION DOES OCCUR. MUKE REPORTED THAT THE NIGERIAN AND CAMEROONIAN CONTROL TEAMS WOULD OPERATE IN ZAIRE(HEAD-QUARTERED IN KINSHASA) , AND THE RWANDAN AND SUDANESE CONTROL TEAMS WOULD WORK IN ANGOLA(HEADQUARTERED IN LUANDA). THE GOZ EXPECTED THAT THE CONTROL TEAMS WOULD BE PRIMARILY MILITARY PERSONNEL (MUKE CLAIMED THAT THE ZAIRIAN LIAISON TEAMS WOULD BE FROM THE ZAIRIAN ARMY), AND THAT THE TEAMS WOULD GENERALLY RESPOND ONLY TO SPECIFIC CHARGES THAT A FRONTIER VIOLATION HAD OCCURRED.

C. UN SECURITY COUNCIL: THE GOZ AND GOA ARE NOW TALKING DIRECTLY TO EACH OTHER AND THEY PRESENTLY SEE NO ROLE FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1941
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C O N F I D E N T I A L FINAL SECTION OF 02 KINSHASA 9905

EXDIS

D. BENGUELA RAILWAY: THE GOZ WAS AWAITING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT'S REPORT ON THE CONDITION OF THE RAILWAY IN SHABA. THE ANGOLANS HAD NOT YET REPORTED HOW MUCH EFFORT WOULD BE NEEDED TO REPAIR/REBUILD THE BRIDGE AT DILOLO. THE ONLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE GOZ ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THE PROT OF LOBITO AND THE TRACK IN ANGOLA HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY THE GOZ OR WAS TAKEN FROM THE STATEMENT BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET MADE DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO ANGOLA.

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E. REFUGEE NUMBERS: MUKE SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE ASK THE DEPARTMENT OF TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NUMBER OF ANGOLAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE. AS TO THE NUMBER OF ZAIRIAN REFUGEES IN ANGOLA, THE GOA CLAIMED APPROXIMATELY 300,000. HOWEVER, MUKE HAD NO IDEA HOW THIS FIGURE HAD BEEN OBTAINED OR WHOM IT INCLUDED. (ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER HAS TOLD CHARGE THIS FIGURE SHOULD BE 150,00).

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F. UNHCR: MUKE STATED THAT UNHCR'S ROLE IN THE REPATRIATION PROCESS WOULD BEGIN WITH A CENSUS OF THE REFUGEE POPULATIONS.

F. UNHCR: MUKE STATED THAT UNHCR'S ROLE IN THE REPATRIATION PROCESS WOULD BEGIN WITH A CENSUS OF THE REFUGEE POPULATIONS. ONCE THIS WAS COMPLETED , UNHCR COULD BEGIN THEIR REPATRIATION. THIS EFFORT WOULD INCLUDE RECORDING EACH REFUGEE'S NAME, ORIGINAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE IN ZAIRE, THE REFUGEE'S "RESIDENCE" IN ANGOLA, WHY HE FLED ZAIRE, ETC. THE GOZ'S POSITION WAS THAT THIS REPATRIATION PROCESS INCLUDED UNHCR'S PROVISION OF NEEDED EMERGENCY OR RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE TO THE RETURNEES. HE NOTED THAT GOZ HAD ALREADY ESTABLISHED A "RECEPTION COMMITTEE FOR ZAIRIANS RETURNING FROM ANGOLA"WHICH WOULD DIRECT THE GOZ'S PARTICIPATION IN THE REPATRIATION PROCESS. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF AN ORDERLY, ORGANIZED RETURN WHICH WOULD AVOID A MAD RUSH FOR THE FRONTIER BY THE REFUGEES.

G. ANGOLAN DISPLACEMENT OF REFUGEES FROM THE FRONTIER: MUKE UNDERSTOOK THAT THE GOA STILL INTENDED TO MOVE ALL ZAIRIAN REFUGEES AT LEAST 250 KILOMETERS FROM THE FRONTIER. DURING THEIR LAST TALKS, THE ANGOLANS REPORTED THAT THIS EFFORT HAD BEEN DELAYED BY LACK OF TRANSPORT. HOWEVER, THEY ALSO CLAIMED THAT THIS OBSTACLE HAD BEEN OVERCOME DURING THE VISIT PRESIDENT NETO HAD MADE TO THE ANGOLAN INTERIOR JUST BEFORE COMING TO KINSHASA.

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3. COMMENT: MUKE INDIRECTLY INDICATED THAT REAR ADMIRAL LOMPONDA MAY BE MORE THAN JUST THE FIGUREHEAD LEADER OF THE ZAIRIAN DELEGATION TO THE MIXED COMMISSION. HE REPLIED TO SEVERAL QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE VERIFICATION COMMISSION BY SAYING THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO RAISE THE QUESTION WITH THE "ADMIRAL". MUKE ALSO NOTED THAT THE ZAIRIAN BUREAUCRACY WAS HAMPERING ZAIRE'S ABILITY TO REACT QUICKLY TO DEVELOPMENTS IN THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS. SO FAR THE DEPARTMENTS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENSE, THE BUREAU OF THE PRESIDENT, AND THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR DOCUMENTATION (CND: I.E. THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE) WERE ALL ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE REPPROCHEMENT ON THE ZAIRIAN SIDE. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORT AND TERRITORIAL ADMIN-ISTRATION WERE INVOLVED DUE TO THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE RAILWAYS AND REFUGEES. THE EXISTENCE OF THESE DIFFERENT BUREAUCRATIC STRUCTURES GREATLY SLOWED THE GOZ'S RESPONSES AND INCREASED THE EFFORT NEEDED JUST TO MAINTAIN MINIMUM FORWARD MOTION.
DAVIS

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